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SUBJECT Possible Dissolution of SPD
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1. Intensive preparations are being made for the "voluntary" dissolution of the SPD in the various districts of the Eastern Sector of Berlin, although no decision has been taken yet as to how this campaign should be carried out. SED circles are aware that there are some districts in the Eastern Sector of Berlin, which, from their point of view, are lacking "trustworthy" SPD members. Notwithstanding, it had been planned to start the dissolution campaign in the Treptow District, where all negotiations had been in the hands of August Burde (a SPD member of old standing) and the political officer of the district (Bezirk) Komendatura.
2. In spite of all these preparations, the SED appears as yet undecided whether or not actually to carry out the program. Thus the SED Landesverband requested recently that SPD members be restrained from joining the SED at the present time, and that such members be induced to remain for the present in the SPD.
3. On the other hand, the SED is hinting to SPD officials that the SED would be willing to let the SPD continue as a party in Berlin after the evacuation of the western Allies, which is expected to take place by early September. It is alleged that the SED is anxious to have SPD officials retain their party functions, and an intermediary has approached Robert Rohde, SPD Chairman of Reinickendorf and member of the Marxistische Arbeitsgemeinschaft, and Dr. Josef Grunner with an offer of posts in the future SPD organization.

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